

Morrison Planetarium

Sky Shows

Death Stars and Dragon Tales, which begins in Morrison Planetarium on May 3, takes a journey back through time to the age of the dinosaurs to explore some theories on the extinction of these giant reptiles. Was their demise a result of a huge meteorite hitting the earth, or the explosion of some faraway sun, or some other cosmic catastrophe? Current research is offering new clues to help unravel this age old mystery. Death Stars and Dragon Tales can be seen through June 23.

Shows in the Morrison Planetarium are at 2:00 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m., 2:00 and 3:30 p.m. on the weekends and holidays. (Due to large crowds, members are asked to be at the Planetarium door no more than ten minutes before showtime.)

Exploring the Skies of the Season, a look at the current night sky over San Francisco, can be seen at 12:30 p.m. on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

Laserium

Laserium shows offer high-tech entertainment, using a powerful 1-watt krypton laser and Morrison Planetarium's newly renovated stereo sound system.

Crystal Odyssey, featuring classical music by Bach, Saint-Saens, Grieg, Mussorgsky, and others is presented weekends at 5:00 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$3 for children 6-12 and seniors.

Laser Rock Platinum rocks the planetarium at night with the Rolling Stones, Rush, Journey, Led Zeppelin and others Friday through Sunday evenings at 7:30.

Dark Side of the Moon featuring the music of Pink Floyd can be experienced Thursday through Sunday at 9:00 p.m., with late shows Friday and Saturday at 10:30.

Tickets for Laser Rock Platinum and Dark Side of the Moon are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children 6-12 and seniors. There are discount prices for groups of ten or more. You can bring your own FM Walkman type radio to all Laserium concerts and choose your own listening volume.

Children under six are not admitted to Laserium shows. Members are reminded that their complimentary tickets are not valid for Laserium admission. Tickets are available from the planetarium one-half hour before showtime. Shows titles are subject to change without notice. For information on Laserium call 221-0168.

Planetarium Concert Series

Morrison Planetarium's spring concert series concludes this month with a performance by one of the Bay Area's most popular Hispanic musicians.

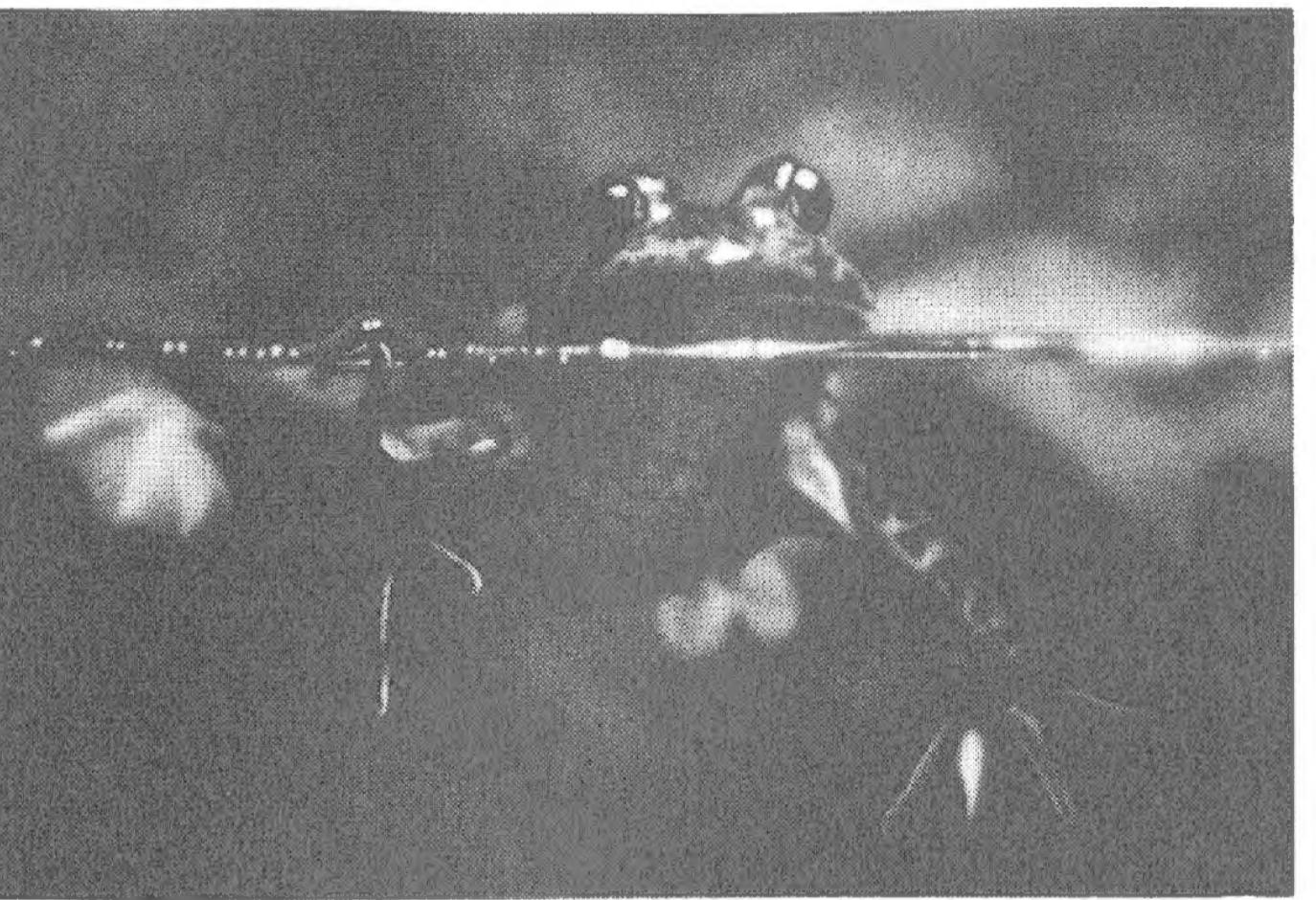
Jose-Luis Orozco
Tuesday, May 7 **8:00 p.m.**

In keeping with the celebration of Cinco de Mayo festivities, Jose-Luis Orozco, talented guitarist and balladeer, will perform music rich in the Hispanic culture. Ballads, children's folklore and moving, centuries-old *corridos* will highlight this evening of music under the stars of Northern California's largest indoor universe — the Morrison Planetarium.

Tickets are \$4 for members and \$6 for non-members. Send your payment with a self addressed, stamped envelope to Morrison Planetarium, California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA 94118. Tickets will be sold at the door on a space available basis. For information call 668-8054.

The **Summer Concert Series** in July and August will feature contemporary electronic music. See the June Newsletter for a complete schedule.

S pecial Exhibits



Pseudis paradoxa

Contemplations: Paintings by Kevin Aquilar depicts the natural world on canvas with startling realism. Frogs seem about to leap from their watery homes, crystal rocks and cacti appear too sharp to touch, and butterflies are brilliantly fragile. Mr. Aquilar's work has been featured in exhibitions throughout the West and Hawaii. These large airbrush paintings can be seen in Cowell Gallery May 4 through June 9.



Dudleya traskiae
by Larry Johnson

Silent Partings, a juried show of photographs, paintings and drawings of endangered plants of California opens May 14 in Lovell White Hall. These forty works were selected from over 300 entries by interested artists. Mountain lady's slipper, California pitcher plant and the extremely rare Tiburon mariposa lily are just a few of the delicate plants depicted. This exhibition will be on display through June 16.

Passage Through India, photographs by Robert Holmes continues in Peterson-McBean galleries through June 16. Beneath hundreds of prayer flags, these color photographs depict the life, land and festivals of the diverse people of northern India.

Behind the Mountains, photographs by David Cross of the stark beauty of the intermountain West can be seen in Lower Cowell Hall Gallery through June.

F or Young Audiences

This exciting series of professional performing arts programs for children takes place through June on the last Wednesday and Sunday of each month in Wattis Hall of Man. Each performance explores science and cultural anthropology through music, dance and theater.

The program is made possible by a grant from the McKesson Foundation, Inc. to Young Audiences of the Bay Area, Inc., - a national non-profit organization sponsoring art programs in local schools.

Wednesday, May 22* **11:00 a.m.**
Sunday, May 26 **1:00 p.m.**

Theater Flamenco presents a unique repertoire of dances from Spain, Latin America, and the Philippines, highlighting the cultural heritage of Spanish-speaking countries.

*The Wednesday performance is for school groups and is by reservation only. Please call Young Audiences at 495-8380 for information.

Special Events

Symposium on Water Issues

Saturday, May 4 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Morrison Auditorium

Members only Free

The scientific Fellows of the California Academy of Sciences will address one of the most pressing problems in our state in their symposium "Ecological Changes Resulting from Water Diversion and Other Water Management." Water diversion is a major human activity, not only in California but worldwide, which can result in significant ecological changes. The program for the 1985 Fellows Day will focus on specific changes that have resulted from California's water policies and will provide information to predict the impact of future changes.

PROGRAM AGENDA

Introduction - The History of Water Diversion in California - Herb Schneider, U.C. Davis

The Economics of Water Diversion and Water Pricing - Zach Wiley, Environmental Defense Fund

Ecological Changes

Mono Lake and the Owens Valley - John Melack, U.C. Santa Barbara

A Southern California Salt Marsh - Joy Zedler, San Diego State University

Western San Joaquin Valley - Terry Young, Environmental Defense Fund

San Francisco Bay Estuarine Delta System - Fred Nichols, U.S.G.S. Menlo Park
Changes from a Riparian Aquatic System to a Ponded Reservoir System in California - Peter B. Moyle, U.C. Davis

Expectations for Future Water Needs in California - David Dowell, U.C. Berkeley

Beyond California - The Global Implications of Water Management - Huey Johnson, The New Renaissance Center

This symposium is open only to members of the museum; it is free and seating is available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

For further information call the Academy's Public Information Office at 221-4214, Ext. 227.

The California Current

Thursday, May 16 8:00 p.m.

Morrison Auditorium

Free

The California Current is one of the most prolific ocean systems in the world. The current is located within newly acquired territorial waters of the United States - an area which has been the target of often conflicting industrial interests and political campaigns. Marie De Santis will explore the traditional views and current conflicts over our use of the sea in this slide/lecture.

Marie De Santis wrote about her experiences as captain and owner of a commercial fishing boat in her first book "Neptune's Daughter." Her most recent book, "California Currents" is a series of 45 essays on the pleasures, mysteries and dilemmas of the waters at our doorstep.

Senior Poetry Recital

Saturday, May 18 10:00 a.m.

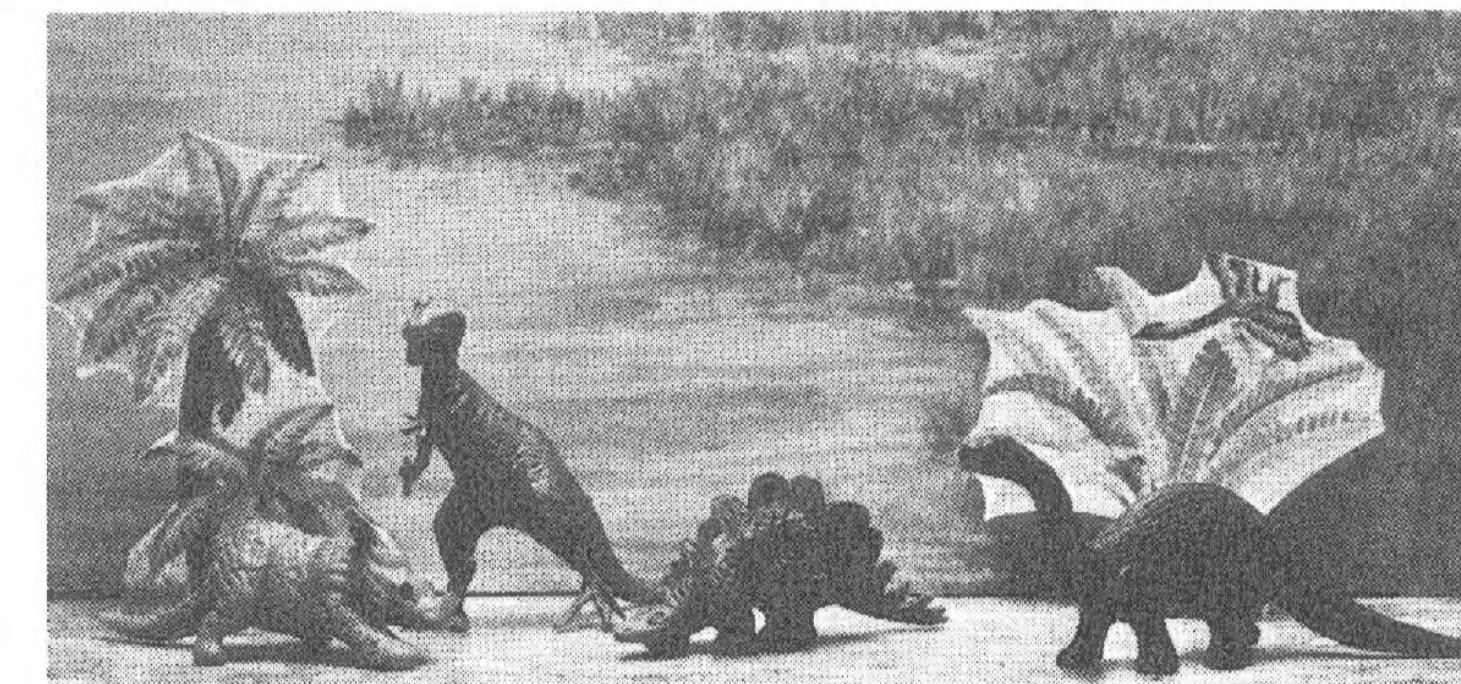
Morrison Auditorium

Free

"Poetry tells what your heart says and your soul urges it on." May, age 93

The Seniors Poetry Recital is the culmination of a pilot program "Seniors Teaching Environmental Poetry Project" (STEP) that was designed to provide an opportunity for self-expression for seniors in long-term care facilities. Through the cooperation of Laguna Honda Volunteers, the San Francisco Medical Society Auxiliary, and the American Conservatory Theater, seniors in twenty nursing homes participated in a series of seven workshops to create poems that will be presented in this recital. A booklet of the poetry and the poets' biographies written by children who interviewed them will be distributed at the show.

Inside the Academy



Dino-rama

Become part of the Academy's 1985

Dino Fest by creating your own Dino-rama! Design your own prehistoric scene showing the dinosaurs in their environment millions of years ago. Place the animals and plants on a platform or in a box to illustrate a scene from the age of the reptiles. Your Dino-rama will be judged on scientific accuracy, design and general appeal by a team consisting of an educator, a paleontologist and a designer. In addition to awards for the first, second and third place winners in each category there will be a special award for the best entry in a shoebox. Some of the winning Dino-ramas will be chosen for display in Cowell Hall during the Academy's 1985 Dino-Fest which begins on July 4. The rules for the contest are:

1. Size of display must not exceed three feet on any side.
2. Winning entries will remain at the Academy until removed from public display.
3. Displays not chosen as winners must be picked up by July 3.
4. Individuals or groups may submit entries; only one entry per individual or group is allowed.
5. Entries must not require electricity, liquids, chemicals or batteries or contain living materials.

6. Entries must include: Name of artist, address, phone, age and category.

Categories:

1. ages eight and under
2. ages nine through 12
3. ages 13 through 17
4. ages 18 and above
5. commercial entry, art shop, design firm etc.

The deadline for entries is 5:00 p.m., June 15, 1985.

For further information call Susan Douglas in the Education Department at (415) 668-7376.



Junior Academy offers dinosaurs activities

The Junior Academy will offer dinosaur related activities throughout the summer. Summer schedules will be mailed to Junior Academy members in mid-May; if your child is not a member and you would like information call Junior Academy at (415) 668-7376.

Pacific Discovery Magazine or a membership to the California Academy of Sciences make wonderful graduation gifts. A subscription to Pacific Discovery is only \$11 in the United States and \$12.50 for a foreign address. A membership in the Academy, which includes a subscription to Pacific Discovery, is \$20 for a student or \$30 for an individual membership. Call the Academy membership office at (415) 221-5100 for further information.



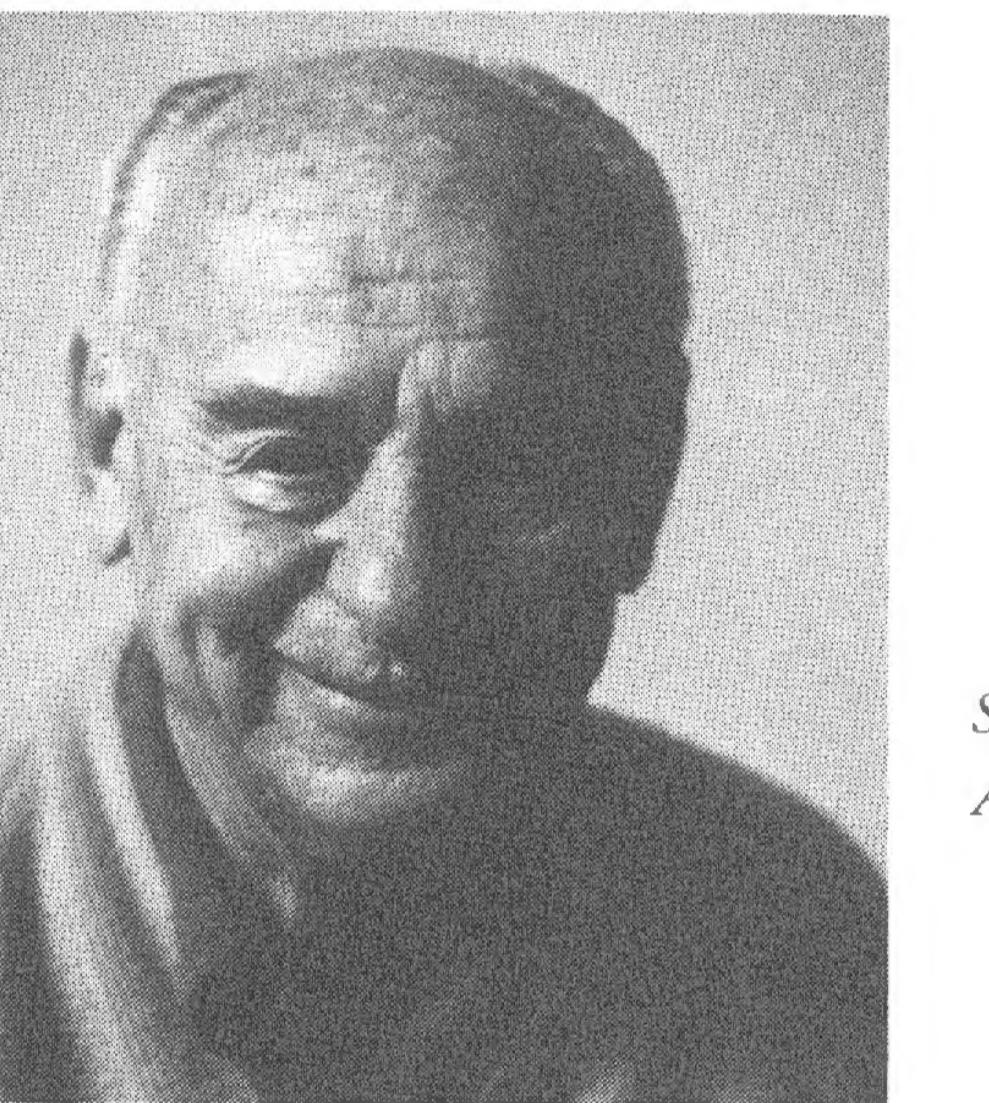
Rollo and Ida Beck, Falkland Islands, 1915

The Rollo Beck Collection of South Sea artifacts and historic papers has recently been acquired by the California Academy of Sciences. Rollo Beck was the captain of the schooner *Academy* that made an historic voyage to the Galapagos Islands in 1905-06 where Captain Beck collected valuable scientific specimens and native artifacts. When the schooner returned to San Francisco in November of 1906, the City had been virtually destroyed and the greater part of the holdings of the California Academy of Sciences were the newly collected specimens in the ship's hold.

Mr. Beck and his wife Ida made other extensive collecting trips through South America and the South Seas gathering scientific and anthropological materials. Fortunately Rollo recorded his experiences in notes, letters and incomparable photographs. These materials, including a working magic lantern and over 300 rare, hand-tinted lantern slides have been donated to the Anthropology Department and the Academy Archives by Beck's niece, Mrs. Polly Fellers and her husband Don. This wonderful collection, hidden from view for over sixty years, fills many gaps in our knowledge about Rollo Beck and greatly enhances our collections of South Pacific ethnology.

T raditional Arts

On Saturday afternoons at 1:00 p.m. visitors to the Natural History Museum and Aquarium can enjoy and interact with some of the diverse ethnic groups of the Bay Area. Each week one of these groups shares its cultural heritage with a presentation of their traditional arts. The Traditional Arts Program is made possible by a grant from the Paul L. and Phyllis Wattis Foundation.



Storyteller
Andrei Rayburn

May 4 - Our first program this month highlights Japanese culture. After participating in the Cherry Blossom Festival in Japantown, Vicky Mihara will come to the Museum to demonstrate traditional origami, the ancient art of folding paper into recognizable figures.

May 11 - Multi-talented artist Lai Sivilay will make typical Khmu bamboo baskets. Mr. Sivilay was a village chief in Nam Tha Province, Laos before he immigrated to the United States.

May 18 - Using live bunnies, textile artist Bonnie Almond will spin wool directly from the animal. Ms. Almond breeds English Angora rabbits in her backyard and uses the undyed wool to make one-of-a-kind sweaters.

May 25 - Accomplished storyteller Andrei Rayburn, who escaped from Russia in 1918, tells his own version of the epic fairy tale "Rousslan and Liudmillah," written in 1820 by poet Alexander Pushkin.

Adult Education And Travel

The Adult Education Office offers classes and study tours for a wide variety of interests; for more information call the Adult Education Office at (415) 221-4716.

Channel Islands for Scuba Divers

May 20 - 24

**Pre-trip meeting: May 15
(7:00 - 9:00 p.m.)**

Leader: Brian Gibeson, Marine Biologist

Cost: \$500 for members; \$525 non-members (Does not include transportation to Santa Barbara)

Join us aboard the spacious *Conception* and head to the beautiful Channel Islands for five days of underwater photography and exploration. We will dive the pristine waters of southern San Clemente and Santa Barbara Islands, as well as Anacapa, Santa Cruz, and Santa Rosa Islands where we will have the opportunity to observe how specimens are collected for the Steinhart Aquarium. Under the guidance of certified NAUI instructors, we will be able to participate in night dives and to explore some of the fascinating shipwrecks found in the area. Participants must be certified divers and should have been diving within the last year.

Academy Expeditions

Plan your 1985 travel year now. There are diverse destinations with adventure and education for every traveler. For information call the Academy Travel Office at (415) 221-5100.

A DIVE TRIP TO THE SEA OF CORTEZ

May 12 - 23

\$1395 plus air

NORTH TO ALASKA

June 19 - 30

\$1970 plus air

THE CANADIAN ROCKIES: A Nature Spectacular - Filled, wait list only.
July 19 - 28

KENYA ADVENTURE SAFARI - Filled, wait list only
July 19 - August 1



Chinzombo Camp, Zambia

THE HEARTLAND OF AFRICA
Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Botswana
August 4 - 25

GRAND CANYON WHITEWATER EXPEDITION - Filled, wait list only
August 19 - September 1
\$1346 plus air

NORTHWEST PASSAGE VOYAGE
August 22 - September 23
\$14,900 to \$29,600 plus air

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS
\$1200 plus air
October 5 - 22

MEXICO SOUTH: Land of the Maya and Zapotecs
November 1 - 17
\$1765 land plus \$439 air

RED SEA AND ETERNAL SINAI
December 17 - January 4
\$3960 cruise and land plus \$1200 air

May Members' Meetings

Dates & Times

Matinee, 2:00 p.m., Wednesday,
May 8

Evenings, 8:00 p.m., Wednesday and
Thursday, May 8 and 9

Place

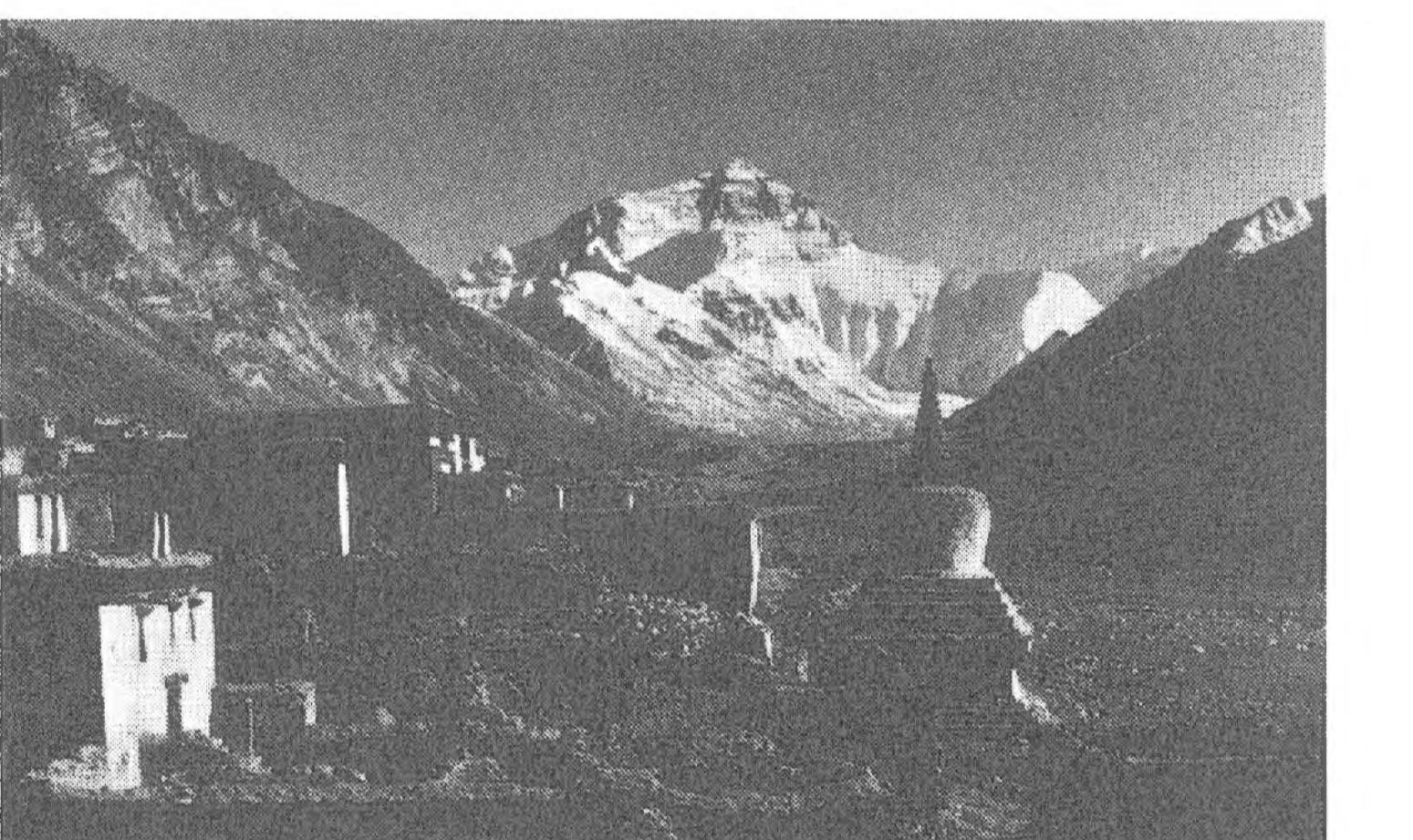
Morrison Auditorium

Speaker

Edwin Bernbaum

Subject

Lhasa to Everest: Monasteries and
Mountains of Tibet



Mt. Everest as seen from Tibet

For many centuries, the isolated valleys of Tibet have provided a sanctuary for one of the most extraordinary cultures in history. Great monasteries presided over a society dedicated to religion and ruled by lamas or Buddhist monks. Much of this unique culture ended with the Chinese occupation in 1950, but recently, with the opening of Tibet to the outside world, there has been a dramatic revival of religious and cultural activity.

Edwin Bernbaum, who has fascinated Academy members with his previous slide/lectures on the Himalayas, will explore the mountains, myths and culture of Tibet, past and present. The surviving art of the great monasteries, the reconstruction of temples, the people, villages and spectacular mountain landscapes were photographed by Mr.

Bernbaum during his recent journey from Lhasa to the glaciers of Mt. Everest.

Edwin Bernbaum is a doctoral candidate in Asian studies at the University of California at Berkeley. He has done extensive research in the Himalayas and is the author of *The Way to Shambhala*.

Your membership card admits you through the Wattis Hall or Cowell Hall entrances for the afternoon program and through the Cowell Hall entrance for the evening meetings. Please be prepared to show your membership card at the auditorium door for the matinee presentation since the museum is open to the public at that time.

Sneak Preview: The Academy's annual **Open House** will take the place of the members' meetings on June 12 and 13. It's your night to go behind the scenes at the Academy and meet the staff of Steinhart Aquarium, Morrison Planetarium and the research departments.

The Month At A Glance

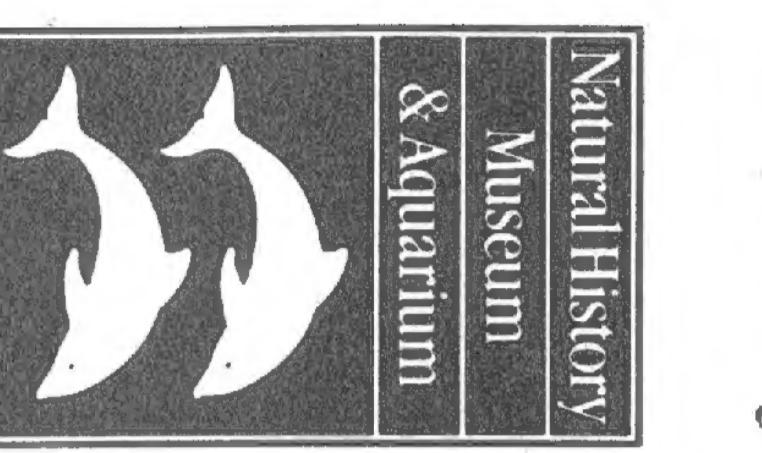
MAY

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- 4 Water Issues symposium
- 4 **Contemplations: Paintings by Kevin Aquilar** opens
- 4 Traditional Arts - Origami
- 7 Jose-Luis Orozco in planetarium
- 8 Members' Meeting
- 9 Members' Meeting
- 11 Traditional Arts - Khmu baskets
- 14 **Silent Partings** opens
- 16 The California Current
- 18 Traditional Arts - spinning wool from bunnies
- 18 Senior Poetry Recital
- 25 Traditional Arts - Russian storytelling
- 26 Young Audiences - Theater Flamenco

Time Dated Material

Golden Gate Park
San Francisco, California 94118-9961
(415) 221-5100

No. 545



*Open every day of the year
from 10 until 5*

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California Academy of Sciences

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Natural History
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NEWSLETTER

May 1985